

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

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P R 311445Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

SECSTATE WASHDC 910

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC NI

SUBJECT: INTERVISITOR HERBERT C. KODILINYE

REF: STATE 170901

1. DUE NEW STATUS UNIGERIA AS FEDERAL INSTITUTION AND UNCERTAINTIES HIS COMMITMENTS IN NIGERIA AND UK RE HIS UNIVERSITY, KODILINYE NOW UNABLE DETERMINE WHEN HE CAN TRAVEL US AND DOUBTS HE CAN REMAIN LONGER THAN SEVEN DAYS.

2. HE ARRIVING LONDON 31 AUGUST AND, IN HOPE HE CAN FIT VISIT INTO SEVENTEEN DAY PERIOD WHICH REMAINS PRIOR HIS RETURN CAMPUS, HAS REQUESTED LONDON CONTACT HIM SEPTEMBER 3 OR 4 RE FINAL DECISION.

3. SHOULD HE DECIDE TRAVEL (AND HE WILLING RETURN BY AIR), EMBASSY REALIZES THAT SEVEN DAY VISIT WOULD OBVIATE IN DEPTH EXPOSURE AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS WE HAD HOPED HE WOULD OBTAIN, AND THAT EXPENSES INVOLVED WOULD, UNDER NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES ARGUE AGAINST CURTAILED VISIT.

4. ALTHOUGH VC HAS BEEN INFORMED HE COULD POSTPONE TRIP, HE RELUCTANT TO DO SO. RELUCTANCY STEMS FROM SENSE OF COMMITMENT WHICH HE FEELS FOR HAVING ACCEPTED YALE INVITATION, AND FACT THAT HE REALLY WISHES TO SEE COUNTRY AND EDUCATION SYSTEM THAT TRAINED BULK OF HIS TEACHING STAFF. IT ALSO SEEMS POSSIBLE, BASED ON RECENT CONVERSATION BETWEEN KODILINYE AND

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CAO, THAT HE HOPES VISIT WILL DISPEL REMNANTS OF UNPLEASANT

INCIDENT THAT OCCURRED BETWEEN HIM AND FORD FOUNDATION AND WHICH, IN PART, MIGHT HAVE INFLUENCED HIS NEGATIVE REACTION OUR EARLY EFFORTS PROGRAM STAGS AND FULBRIGHT PROFESSORS NSUKKA. HE NOW WELCOMES VISITING LECTURERS AND HAS ASKED FOR FULBRIGHT PROFESSOR OF JOURNALISM FOR 74-75).

5. ACCORDING KODILINYE, FORD FOUNDATION OFFERED HIM US TRAVEL GRANT IN 71, SENT REPRESENTATIVE AND WIFE NSUKKA; HE AND MRS. KODILINYE ENTERTAINED COUPLE THEIR RESIDENCE; THEN, JUST BEFORE KODILINYE'S DEPARTURE FOR LONDON/US, FOUNDATION SENT "TERSE, RUDE" TELEGRAM INFORMING HIM VISIT HAD BEEN CANCELLED. FROM ALL INDICATIONS, KODILINYE WAS, FOR LONG TIME MIFFED OVER INCIDENT, BUT APPEARS TO HAVE FORGIVEN AND FORGOT.

6. GIVEN THIS SITUATION AND PERSONALITY INVOLVED, WE HAVE PREFERRED NOT STRONGLY DISCOURAGE SEVEN DAY VISIT AND HOPE DEPARTMENT WILL VIEW SITUATION AS DO WE, AND CONCUR HIS PROPOSAL SHOULD HE TRAVEL.

7. FULLY APPRECIATE INCONVENIENCES CAUSED DEPARTMENT, YALE AND LONDON; BUT HOPE ALL CONCERNED WILL ASSIST IN WHATEVER WAY POSSIBLE.
REINHARDT

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